

**From:** Sally Neal  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 6:44 AM  
**Subject:** NO MONOPOLY!!!

**From:** matthew lipman  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 6:44 AM  
**Subject:** Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I am writing you to urge you and your fellow commissioners to vote against the proposed loosening of the Broadcast Ownership Rules.

I have serious concerns that this will significantly limit the opportunities to have broad views expressed to the American people. At a time when public liberties are being reduced because of our countries war time posture, further reduction of our ability to hear diverse opinions would be a mistake.

The large broadcast companies that want to expand are doing so only for financial greed and are able to compete and make money under the current rules. Please do not allow these monopolies to become even larger.

Thank you.

Yours truly,  
Matthew J. Lipman, MD  
Crescent Springs, KY 41017

**CC:** Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Tony Brasunas  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 6:51 AM  
**Subject:** Media Deregulation

Honorable Mr. Powell:

For the love of God and all that is beautiful and true in the world, consider putting off the vote on this massive media deregulation at least until July, when people will have had a real chance to learn about the salient issues on both sides of this issue. Is it not important to consider that this might be a fabulously un-democratic decision, if it goes ahead? Honestly, of the thousands of public comments you have recently received, how many have supported going ahead now?

In a democracy, the people's will counts. Please uphold our democracy.

Sincerely,

Tony Brasunas

=====<>=====

Tony Brasunas  
Publisher  
Garlic & Grass  
A Grassroots Journal of America's Political Soul  
[www.garlicandgrass.org](http://www.garlicandgrass.org)  
[tony@garlicandgrass.org](mailto:tony@garlicandgrass.org)

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Aaron Kositsky  
**To:** FCC FCCINFO  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 6:55 AM  
**Subject:** Proposed rule changes inhibit free flow of information

Whatever happened to the Sherman Anti-Trust Act and the Clayton Act?  
Allowing a select few large media conglomerates to control even more of the national media only serves to lead the U.S. away from the time-honored democratic tradition of the free flow of information.

Please do not let personal political biases interfere with the basic tenets of the Constitution and ultimately the future of free speech in our Republic. Relaxing current regulations is a politicized step in the wrong direction.

With respect,  
Harold Rungledorf

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**CC:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Leah Buchko  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 7:07 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming Vote

Commissioner Abernathy,

The very first sentence of The Telecommunications Act of 1996 states, "Anyone can enter any communications business and any communications business can compete in any market against any other" These words touch on the very core of our freedom's. If Big Business controls the media then they control what we see, hear and read. Did you know that, "The American's have been defeated at Saddam Airport, Go there and you will see".

Thank You,  
John Buchko  
19 Abbott Farm Ct.  
Hamilton, N.J. 08610

**From:** Karin Long  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 7:12 AM  
**Subject:** Bigger isn't better if it means more inappropriate tv content.

I understand that there is a decision to be made Monday regarding increased cross ownership of media corporations. If larger corporations would mean a larger commitment to cleaning up family television time that would be great. I haven't seen this commitment yet to any significant degree. Please focus on getting back to increased censorship of the television programming and making television viewing safe again for families. Until then, I hate to see further deregulation of any kind. Thank you for considering my opinion. Karin Long 779 Cornwall Road, State College, PA 16803

**From:** Kris Rasmussen  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 7:18 AM  
**Subject:** Monday's vote

I strongly URGE you to not make this mistake of voting to allowing to vote against this acton Monday that will further destroy the freedom of the press and of free speech by conytinuing to allow media congloerates to grow by acquiring more media outlets.

This is a serious and devastating blow to oursocierty if this happens and not enough Americans are even aware you are pushing this through. Please reconsider. I will be calling my congressman and others to rally support against this measure.

Sincerely,  
Kris Rasmussen

**From:** tony ehrlich  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 7:22 AM  
**Subject:** Please Don't Relax FCC Rules

Dear Commissioner Abernathy.

The relaxation of rules to enable more media ownership by fewer companies is not in the public interest.  
Please do not relax these rules

The FCC has already gone too far in relaxing media requirements to provide public service. Please bring back public service requirements. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Anthony Ehrlich

PO Box 252

Barberville, FL 32105

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**From:** Thomas Ingram 2  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, crierlive@courttv.com, newstip@thebakersfieldchannel.com, editorials@thebakersfieldchannel.com, news@kernradio.com  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 7:28 AM  
**Subject:** MEDIA CONSOLIDATION

This week your be decussing about media consolidation. For the sake of people's job's at many tv station. We should support this measure, for one reason. reason one, control the cost of radio or tv commercial prices. If you talk about consolidation, xm satellite radio in 101 xm channels, consolidated as one service that can do some advertizing on most of there xm channels, affordable..

Thomas S. Ingram II

**From:** MConner  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 8:01 AM  
**Subject:** Consolidation is wrong

Stop this now. We need America to have a free and independent press. With this move we are closer to facism than ever imagined by any true American.

thank you

MConner

**From:** Gina CLement  
**To:** Mike Powell, Commissioner Adelstein, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 8:12 AM  
**Subject:** Vote on change in ownership rules

Chairman Michael K. Powell;  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy;  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein;  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps;  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: PROPOSED RULE CHANGES TO OWNERSHIP OF BROADCAST STATIONS**

Dear Chairman Powell; Commissioners Abernathy, Adelstein, Copps and Martin:

The Federal Communications Commission is debating a proposed change in the ownership of broadcasting stations, ending a 28-year-old ban on ownership of newspapers and broadcast stations - television or radio - in the same market. The prohibition was intended to preserve a variety of viewpoints.

If the commission votes to end this ban, I believe you will be doing a great harm to the listening public, by allowing less competition to exist and further more, reducing the ability of different opinions and viewpoints to be expressed. The net result will be a lessening of the public airwaves because ultimately, only the richest of broadcast owners will survive, prompting everyone to buy up as many markets as they can, regardless of whether it is in their own best interests or not, and equally without regard to the best interests of the public -- which we are told is really the owner of the public airwaves.

We, the public, are supposedly the owners of the airwaves, but we are hearing less and less of our voices expressing the wide divergence of the opinions and views of this nation's citizens. As proof of this, the Commission should note some of the examples of which, such as Clear Channel Communications Inc., which gobbled up hundreds of stations, and now owns about 1,200 stations. Clear Channel dominates the airwaves in many cities and towns, and has applied a "one size fits all" approach to public broadcasting, and in doing so it has diminished the quality of those station it took over as a result of the rule changes in ownership thanks to the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The change in ownership rules was and is, a bad idea!

While listening to a Nation Public Radio report on the Commission's vote, I was stuck with a prime example of why the Commission should not allow more stations to be owned by a single owner, and you are going to be shocked as to the reason why.

Are any of you baseball fans?

One of the problems affecting Professional Baseball is the large market versus small market inequity. In other words, small market teams can't compete money wise with the larger market teams, i.e., the New York and Atlanta market teams. That's because of the money generated by broadcast rights for those teams.

Baseball owners -- who's greed equals or exceeds that of broadcast owners -- don't want revenue sharing, which is the only way to equalize the playing field of money derived from these highly lucrative broadcasting contracts.

Enter the players.

Cash rich teams, in order to attract even more viewers to these markets, pay ungodly amounts of money to the players, because they have huge piles of money to spend on attracting players, regardless of whether or not they are worth 1 million or 15 million dollars a year! I love baseball, but the money being thrown around at players is totally absurd.

Baseball is a game people. It's not saving lives in an operating room. It's not launching the Space Shuttle and safely bring 7 people back to earth from outer space. It's not teaching our children how to act or live a productive life.

In fact, baseball is promoting a "greed of life" attitude. "Take everything you can get," seems to be the message sent by major league baseball. "Build us a public funded baseball stadium, or lose 'your baseball team,'" is the threat issued by all of the baseball teams who can't make their money go far enough to pay exorbitant salaries and pay for those expenses which belong -- not to the taxpayers of the cities where these teams reside -- to the owners of these teams.

Just like a ripple from a stone cast into a still lake, the effects of decisions of the Federal Communications Commission are far reaching and the Commission has had a huge effect upon many aspects of our society. In my opinion, baseball is just one aspect that has both benefited in the short run -- by increasing television viewers -- and suffered in the long run -- by warping baseball into all about making obscene amounts of money, instead of upholding the ideals and spirit of what baseball was supposed to be about -- a kid's game played for fun.

But baseball is just one of many aspects of our lives that the proposed change in the ownership rules of broadcasting stations will have if you allow a hand full of people to control what the rest of us see and hear over the, so-called, public airwaves.

One aspect of the NPR report about the upcoming vote, was the fact that the networks, which will most likely become the owners of most stations in America, in a move to save money by owning all of its own outlet stations, if fully to blame for their own trouble. If they were not paying out more money for programming and broadcast rights for sports than what they are really worth, then they would not be harming sports in general and inflating the actual value of the products they market through broadcasting.

In addition, television networks -- those who are pushing this rule change and who stand to reap a windfall if it passes -- are citing that cable television networks are drawing viewers away.

But it is the television networks who own most of the cable networks! They already control what goes onto the air, now they want everything in between!

In the end, is this vote really just about making money or do ideals and principals that guide our lives really exist?

Is the work of the FCC really about preserving the public airwaves for the public or is it everything has a price and it all goes to the highest bidder?

I and all like me, can only pray that each of you on the Commission understands the importance of your vote and that you really can see the harm that has been done so far and the damage that will be done if you allow unfettered ownership of the public airwaves by a handful of persons.

Thank you for reading my opinions and I pray you will not change the restrictions upon ownership of public broadcasting stations.

Sincerely,

Patrick N. Clement

4688 S 112 ST.

Greenfield, WI 53228-2525

(414) 425-9698

**From:** Pam Swafford  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 8:16 AM  
**Subject:** no more deregulation

I am strongly opposed to more deregulation of the media.

Pam Swafford

**From:** Neil Thomas  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 8:37 AM  
**Subject:** FCC Rules to allow concentration of ownership

Dear Good People,

Please do not support FCC rule changes to allow the further concentration of ownership in the media. When a few owners control the media the truth can never get out. I am searching through foreign new sources now to better understand US news. We rarely can find world news and balanced news anywhere from any of the US media. When a few companies own nearly all of the media, we must expect censorship on any topic that negatively impacts these corporations and their corporate environments.

We rarely watch any television. Even NPR radio has lost its capacity to report the news on many topics. In this high-tech world, this corporate censorship is very frightening.

Sincerely,

Neil Thomas  
305 Westover Drive  
Asheville, NC 28801

**From:** Toni Aiello  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 8:44 AM  
**Subject:** Don't ease restrictions

Commissioner Abernathy:

Those across the political spectrum who are urging the FCC not to ease ownership restrictions on the media industry are correct. Businesses who own the media have the power to prioritize and edit content and shape the public's programming interests, not merely respond to the public's own programming preferences. Unlike control over McDonald's menu or Disney World's rides, this much power in too few hands undermines the foundation for well-informed public choices in a democracy.

Toni L. Aiello

Bayside, NY



**From:** Betsey Sweeney  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:02 AM  
**Subject:** Postpone the June 2 Vote!

Dear Commissioners,

You must postpone the June 2nd vote to authorize greater concentration of ownership of media in our nation. There is already a critical lack of debate about important issues on the radio or television.

As a teacher in a public school in Los Angeles, it is painfully clear that my students are not being informed about important public issues through their radio and television interactions. The change in the ownership rules in the late 1990's resulted in even less public discussion of issues, and the youth exhibit this ignorance in tragic ways.

It seems that the greater the concentration within the public media of institutions whose goal is profit, the less consideration of the wealth of diverse opinions that our nation has establish as one of our principle expressions of freedom. A vote to further concentrate the ownership of media will certainly exacerbate this very disturbing trend.

Respect public debate...postpone the rule changes and let the discussion develop

Thank you very much.

Betsey Sweeney  
Teacher  
Los Angeles Unified School District

**From:** GuarneriCarlo  
**To:** K4DOM.K4PO2(MPOWELL,MCOPPS),K2DOM.K2PO2(KJMWEB,KABERNAT),K5DO  
M.K5PO2(JADELSTE)  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:03 AM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

## HISTORY FORGOTTEN

Did you know that 52 of the 55 signers of the Declaration of Independence were orthodox, deeply committed Christians? The other three all believed in the Bible as the divine truth, the God of scripture, and His personal intervention.

It is the same Congress that formed the American Bible Society. Immediately after creating the Declaration of Independence, the Continental Congress voted to purchase and import 20,000 copies of scripture for the people of this nation. Patrick Henry, who is called the firebrand of the American Revolution, is still remembered for his words, "Give me liberty or give me death." But in current textbooks the context of these words is deleted. Here is what he actually said: "An appeal to arms and the God of hosts is all that is left us. But we shall not fight our battle alone. There is a just God that presides over the destinies of nations. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone. Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it almighty God. I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death." These sentences have been erased from our textbooks. Was Patrick Henry a Christian? The following year, 1776, he wrote this: "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great Nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For that reason alone, people of other faiths have been afforded freedom of worship here."

Consider these words that Thomas Jefferson wrote on the front of his well-worn Bible: "I am a real Christian, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus. I have little doubt that our whole country will soon be rallied to the unity of our Creator." He was also the chairman of the American Bible Society, which he considered his highest and most important role.

On July 4, 1821, President Adams said, "The highest glory of the American Revolution was this: it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity." Calvin Coolidge, our 30th President of the United States reaffirmed this truth when he wrote, "The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country." In 1782, the United States Congress voted this resolution: "The Congress of the United States recommends and approves the Holy Bible for use in all schools."

William Holmes McGuffey is the author of the McGuffey Reader, which was used for over 100 years in our public schools with over 125 million copies sold until it was stopped in 1963. President Lincoln called him the "Schoolmaster of the Nation." Listen to these words of Mr. McGuffey: "The Christian religion is the religion of our country. From it are derived our notions on the character of God, on the great moral Governor of the universe. On its doctrines are founded the peculiarities of our free Institutions. From no source has the author drawn more conspicuously than from the sacred Scriptures. >From all these extracts from the Bible I make no apology."

Of the first 108 universities founded in America, 106 were distinctly Christian, including the first, Harvard University, chartered in 1636. In the original Harvard Student Handbook, rule number 1 was that: Students seeking entrance must know Latin and Greek so that they could study the scriptures: "Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well, the main end of his life and studies is, to know God and Jesus Christ, which is eternal life, John 17:3; and therefore to lay Jesus Christ as the moral principles of the Ten Commandments."

James Madison, the primary author of the Constitution of the United States, said this: "We have staked the whole future of our new nation not upon the power of government; far from it. We have staked the future of all our political constitutions upon the capacity of each of ourselves to govern ourselves according to the moral principles of the Ten Commandments."

Today, we are asking God to bless America. But, how can He bless a Nation that has departed so far from Him? Prior to September 11, He was not welcome in America. Most of what you read in this article has

been erased from our textbooks. Revisionists have rewritten history to remove the truth about our country's Christian roots.

You are encouraged to share with others, so that the truth of our nation's history will be told.

Author unknown

I received the document on e-mail today from a group of Christian people.

Italics, red letters, bold letters were made by me, Guarneri, Carlo, without changing one single word of the text, comas, periods, and paragraphs.

Guarneri, Carlo. Chase Kansas. May 31, 2003.

guarneri; apostle, prophet and teacher of God's Word.

guarnericarlo@carrollsworld.com

"Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction."

2 Timothy 4:2 (1996). The New American Standard Bible, 1995 Update.

**CC:** Carlo Guarneri

**From:** Marcel  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:14 AM  
**Subject:** Big Media Conglomerate Domination

Giving the Media Conglomerates what they want would prove without a doubt whose pockets the FCC is in. Shame, Shame, Shame.

Marcel  
Rural Retreat, VA

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein

**From:** Jim & Jean Pinkham  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:18 AM  
**Subject:** Proposed Rules on Local TV Ownership

Dear Commissioners:

I do not favor the proposed changes on two grounds: 1) I don't like the potential impact on diversity of editorial opinion that increasing concentration of media ownership in the hands of fewer elites represents and 2) I'm concerned about the probability that major media owners are likely to be less sensitive to local community standards than local owners.

Sincerely,

\*\*\*\*\*

Jim Pinkham  
2830 W. Hiawatha  
Appleton, WI 54914-6708  
jpinkham@prodigy.net

**CC:** Commissioner Adelstein, KM KJMWEB, Michael Copps, Kathleen Abernathy

**From:** David Kuehn  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:39 AM  
**Subject:** Change of Rules

Dear Sir or Madam:

It is my humble opinion that the rules regarding centralized ownership of various media should not be modified. The monopolization of print and broadcast media has the possibility of damaging free speech and discouraging innovation and originality. In the end, the opinions of the few owners and their hand-picked editors could damage our democracy through one-sided discussion of items of public interest

Thank you for your consideration.

David M. Kuehn  
26675 Maple Road  
Webb City MO 64870

**From:** bryan m davis  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:49 AM  
**Subject:** no more media consolidation

Clear Channel should be the benchmark from which all future deregulation of the media is judged. They have a virtual monopoly on local radio and venue entertainment and have callously thrown their weight around, intimidating bands and record labels with their overwrought power handed to them by the government's lack of foresight and courage to REGULATE the industry, no service it

Do your job and prevent media power consolidation and foster free press and media.

Bryan M. Davis  
the\_tat@swbell.net  
5616 Smouldering Wood Ct.  
Arlington, Tx 76016  
817-457-3286

**From:** Erica Derr  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:52 AM  
**Subject:** Rule Change

Dear Mr. Powell,

First, I would like to thank you for acknowledging the voices of the many thousands of citizens who have communicated to you their concerns about the rule changes you are presently considering. I would like to add my voice to theirs.

I have contacted my senators and representatives about this issue, since our entire society is dependent on the ability of the public to receive and evaluate diverse viewpoints on everything from governance to corporate actions (including those of media giants) to pop culture, there is no more critical issue facing our country at this time. If proposed rule changes would allow a single company or individual to control a greater and greater market share of public discourse, you may well be sounding the death knell for our civilization

I understand that you have been lobbied very heavily by the NAB and others who stand to profit from greater media monopolistic control. Perhaps a weak or corrupt person would be influenced by such lobbying. I urge you to have a backbone and to hold the position for the American people. In your current position, you can make no greater contribution to the integrity of our democratic republic than to reconsider and reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Thank you for considering my views.

Erica Derr  
2200 W Cornwallis Dr  
Greensboro, NC 27408  
336-282-5131  
336-202-0276  
ederr@ourstate.com

**CC:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein,  
safire@nytimes.com, edpage@news-record.com



**From:** Nancy  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Sat, May 31, 2003 9:58 AM  
**Subject:** media ownership rules

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

An unsettling kind of secrecy continues to envelop the executive branch of our government, largely with the acquiescence of Congress and the courts upsetting the constitutional system of checks and balances, and now the FCC.

How is it possible to have effective oversight in a democracy if not via an effective and diverse ownership of media not controlled by a few special interest groups? Can oversight survive if the FCC under Michael Powell is allowed to remove the last vestiges of rules on media ownership of the airways supposedly owned by the people of the United States? What is happening to our rights? The people's rights, as James Madison said "to have a vigorous press, to which the United States owes much of the light which conducted [us] to the ranks of a free and independent nation."

I oppose taking a vote that leads to more media consolidation. On June 2nd, I urge you to retain the current ownership rules.

Sincerely,

Nancy Adler  
109 Emerson  
Palo Alto, CA 94301